

HCS HB 1510 -- MAMMOGRAMS

SPONSOR: Allen

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill requires that, upon the completion of a mammogram, a mammography facility certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or by a certification agency approved by the FDA must provide to the patient the following notice:

"If your mammogram demonstrates that you have dense breast tissue, which could hide abnormalities, and you have other risk factors for breast cancer that have been identified, you might benefit from supplemental screening tests that may be suggested by your ordering physician. Dense breast tissue, in and of itself, is a relatively common condition. Therefore, this information is not provided to cause undue concern, but rather to raise your awareness and to promote discussion with your physician regarding the presence of other risk factors, in addition to dense breast tissue. A report of your mammography results will be sent to you and your physician. You should contact your physician if you have any questions or concerns regarding this report."

These provisions do not create a duty of care beyond the duty to provide notice as described in the bill.

The information required by these provisions or evidence that a person violated these provisions is not admissible in a civil, judicial, or administrative proceeding.

A mammography facility is not required to comply with these requirements until January 1, 2015.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill eliminates an unnecessary anxiety and delivers a method to get valuable information in patients' hands so they may best discuss their next course of action with their physicians.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Allen and Center of Diagnostic Imaging.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.